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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Hungary	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Ball-Bearing Factory, Debrecen	DATE DISTR.	31 March 1954
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1. The Debreceni Golyóscsapágygyár, the old ball-bearing factory in Debrecen located at the end of Széchenyi Ut, near the intersection with Külsővásárter, comprises the following buildings:
  - a. Three factory halls approximately 12 by 50 meters each.
  - b. One factory hall 12 by 40 meters.
  - c. Two storage halls 50 by 50 meters each, one used for raw materials, machine parts, tools, gasoline, oil, etc., and the other for finished products.
  - d. Three ground floor structures of eight office rooms each.
  - e. One single-story office building with 16 rooms.
  - f. One ground floor structure with a dining and recreation hall.
  - g. Two ground floor structures housing the blacksmith and carpenter shop.
2. The factory was first equipped with old and obsolete machines, but new lathes, milling machines, presses, etc. were brought from East Germany in 1951 and 1952. By the end of 1952, nearly all the old machines had been replaced.
3. The factory has one truck, which transports the manufactured products directly to Budapest. Raw materials are brought to the factory by four or five Belsped trucks once every two weeks. Workers complain constantly about the inferior quality of the raw materials. At least 25 percent of the bearings turned out by the factory are returned as deficient and useless. They cannot be repaired and are sent to the foundries as scrap.
4. The managerial and administrative staff of approximately 40 persons includes the general manager, superintendent (Gondnok), personnel manager, chief clerk,

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chief accountant, purchasing agent, OTI (social insurance) delegate, cashier, and clerks. Technical supervision of the factory is under two chief engineers, two engineer-assistants, and five foremen. Political supervision and security matters are handled by a political delegate (Politikai Megbizott), the Party secretary, and an AVO official. The AVO official, who supervises the enforcement of security measures and inspects the production halls, stores and offices, is Toth (fnu). He is about 30 years old, tall, blond, and has blue eyes. He came to the factory in 1953. The Party secretary is Bergman (fnu), about 32 years old, an honest and a fair man. Neither man comes from Debrecen.

5. Up to the end of 1953, when the newly-built plant was scheduled to start production, this factory employed 400 regular workers and 400 apprentices. The apprentices undergo a thorough practical and theoretical training, consisting of five consecutive courses, each lasting five to six months. They start with a monthly salary of 600 forints, which increases gradually to an average of 1,000 to 1,200 forints, equal to that of the regular workers. The factory works in three shifts, 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., and 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
6. Approximately 30 percent of the workers at the factory are Party members, the majority of them opportunists who joined the Party out of convenience and personal interest. There is a Party meeting in the factory once a week, and ideological courses are obligatory to all members. A daily half-hour meeting for all factory employees, where excerpts from the Szabad Nep are read and explained, is attended mostly by Party members.
7. Each employee is issued an employment card, valid for an indefinite period, which bears his photograph. The card is withdrawn when the worker is discharged. A gatekeeper, armed with a pistol, and an assistant are on duty all day. There are four watchmen, also armed with pistols, patrolling the factory area during the night, in addition to two watchmen during the day. All employees, even those well known to the gatekeeper, must show their employment cards on entering the factory. Searches of workers' knapsacks or other belongings are often carried out as the workers leave the factory area. At the end of the office hours, the keys of the offices are deposited at the gate in the gatekeeper's lodge. They are picked up in the morning by the clerk who arrives first.
8. A person wishing to visit the factory must show a written invitation to the gatekeeper. When a visitor does not have such an invitation, the official on whom he wishes to call must come to the gate and accompany the visitor back to the office. In either case, the gatekeeper writes out an entrance slip, which must be returned to him duly signed by the official. Visitors are not searched, except when carrying a package which looks suspicious to the gatekeeper.
9. Persons applying for employment are subjected to a lengthy interrogation by the Party secretary of the factory, and are investigated before being approved, even if they were recommended by a high factory official.
10. The new roller bearing factory in Debrecen, located in Samsoni Ut, approximately 3 kilometers from the city in the direction of Hajdusamson, was to start operations on 1 January 1954. The erection of the factory was started a year ago. One 3-story building, approximately 100 by 25 meters, located 20 to 25 meters from the road, was ready in October 1953. [redacted] 3,000 workers 25X1 will be employed as of 1 January 1954. The old factory in Szecsenyi Ut will continue training apprentices, but the ball-bearing production will be taken over by the new factory.

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